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Hong Kong

Market Development Reports

Hong Kong Government Takes Action to Check Contamination of EU poultry and eggs 1999

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Report Highlights:

Hong Kong Government takes action to check contamination of EU poultry and eggs.

There was no import of Belgian poultry and eggs into Hong Kong this year. Poultry from Germany has not been exported to Hong Kong.

To safeguard the local public health, the Hong Kong Department of Health approached the local trade for withdrawal of suspected Dutch and French poultry and Belgian foods with more than two percent egg products from the market. Samples were also taken for dioxin testing.

Includes PSD changes: No

Includes Trade Matrix: No

Unscheduled Report

Hong Kong [HK1], HK

On June 3, 1999, Hong Kong Department of Health issued the following statement regarding the dioxin contamination of EU poultry and eggs.

“The Department of Health had contacted the local Consulates of Belgium, France, German and Holland to find out more about reports of poultry feeds in these countries being contaminated.

It was noted that there was no import of Belgian poultry into Hong Kong this year whereas affected poultry from Germany had not been exported to Hong Kong.

On eggs, information at this stage also showed that eggs were either not being imported from these countries or the affected ones had not been exported to Hong Kong.

As a first step to safeguard local public health, the trade had been approached for withdrawal of suspected Dutch and French poultry and Belgian foods with more than two percent egg products from the market. Samples would be taken for dioxin testing.

Department of Health would continue to liaise with the four countries and closely monitor the developments of this issue in the European Union.

The major exporters of frozen poultry to Hong Kong are the US (two-third of the market share), Brazil (10%) and UK and Canada (together take up 10%).” (End of statement)

The impact of this action on the U.S. poultry and poultry products sales in Hong Kong cannot be assessed at this stage yet. ATO/Hong Kong follow the case closely and report any new findings or any new actions taken by the Hong Kong Government.